AMENDMENTS TO THE ABSTRACT

~~Apparatus including a conveyor for identifying a plurality of items each of which has a radio frequency transponder.~~ A three dimensional (3D) radio frequency antenna is positioned on one side of ~~the~~ a conveyor~~. The conveyor~~ which has a movable part for moving ~~the~~ items, each of which has a radio frequency transponder, into and out of the antenna such that the items when in the antenna are completely surrounded by the antenna. ~~A reader sends interrogation signals to the transponders via the antenna and reads identification information from the transponders.~~ The 3D antenna includes a plurality of coils ~~mounted in a 3D arrangement such as to~~ which provide a 3D reading field in which all transponders in the reading field may be interrogated~~. The 3D antenna~~ and also includes noise compensation coils at opposite ends of the reading field to minimize electromagnetic radiation from the antenna and also minimize noise from external sources ~~affecting reading of the transponders~~. The radio frequency transponder includes a housing, a substrate within the housing, an integrated circuit and a printed circuit board mounted on the substrate. A coil is mounted on the substrate such as to be spaced therefrom~~. The substrate, the printed circuit board, the integrated circuit chip and the coil are encapsulated~~ with the spacing of the coil from the substrate enabling the encapsulant to completely surround the coil.